

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Special Budget meeting was called to order by Mayor Meyers at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza.

PRESENT: Michael Feirer, Alanna Feddick (arrived at 6:05 p.m.), Trish Siegler, Tim Kraus, Ed Wagner, Josh Hansen, Donald Krueger, Tom Buttke and Pete Hendler

ABSENT: John Spiros

The flag was saluted and the pledge given.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Gary Gray of 507 West Park Street felt the City Administrator and City staff did a very good job putting together the budget. It is a very difficult job in putting together a budget. The total budget is a combination of City employees, the Council and the general public getting together and getting a good plan for the next year in regards to the life of the community of Marshfield. One of the things that he personally had a difficult time with was in reviewing some of the expenditures, because they were grouped into categories like contractual services which includes professional services, telecommunications, repairs and returns services and other contracted services. He commented on several budget items.

Mayor Meyers thanked Mr. Gray for his comments and questions.

Brad Breuer of 205 North Maple Avenue referred to page T-2; Protective Services Capital Outlay Fund and asked for the Common Council's support of that budgetary item. He explained that there have been six studies done in regards to a second fire station dating as far back as 1971. All the studies have shown that there needs to be additional personnel with a second station being built. Marshfield Firefighters Local 1021 agrees with the plan of a second station with additional personnel that will assure the safety of the citizens and the firefighters.

Aldersperson Wagner said that he had requested direction from the City Attorney last Friday concerning the process for these budget meetings. He objected to the process of not making any changes to the budget in the workshops last year. Essentially, there is no ordinance, there is no city code, and there is no state statute that prevents this. What does present it is that the meeting notice for tonight and the subsequent meetings all indicate that the Council will not be making any permanent changes to the budget. He considered that to be an infringement on the Council's authority to make changes to the budget, and to set the budget for the City and to review effectively the City's Administrator's budget. He asked the City Administrator to amend the notice for next Monday nights meeting to reflect that the Council if it desires to do so may exercise its authority to make changes to the budget.

City Administrator Brehm explained that this format was established by our first City Administrator, Randy Allen back in the early 1990's. Basically, the format was established as it is this evening and for this budget process to review the Administrator's recommended budget and to have perhaps a round table discussion to more fully better understand what is being recommended and perhaps having several weeks to digest that. And then in the last meeting, once they have had an opportunity to review the first two meetings, perhaps in talking with staff or the Administrator they would feel comfortable

in making recommendations as they desired on that third meeting. This is a format that has been established, but you as the Common Council can have any format that you want. If you want the ability to make changes or take action on all three meetings, you certainly can do that. Based upon Alderman Wagner's request, City Administrator Brehm will word the agenda format for next Monday to give the Council the ability to make changes.

Chairperson Buttke of the Finance, Budget and Personnel Committee assumed the chair.

City Administrator Brehm announced that he distributed a revised Appendix D before the meeting and the only change is on the second page under the Wastewater Utility. He added the following: Replace lateral televising camera for \$10,500.

The following budgets were reviewed: Celebrations and Entertainment (Palm Sunday Chorus, School Patrol and Marshfield Civic Band); Taxi System; Fire and Rescue Department; Emergency Medical Services; Protective Services Capital Outlay Fund 410; Public Works Administration; Capital Project Funds; Infrastructure Construction Fund; Wastewater Utility; Library; Building Services and Inspection; Public Facilities; General Public Facilities Fund – City Hall; City Attorney; Street Division; Vehicle and Equipment Internal Service Fund; TID #3 (Fund 425); TID #2 (Fund 426); TID #4 (Fund 428); TID #6 (Fund 429); TID #5 (Fund 430); TID #7 (Fund 432); TID #8 (Fund 433); Planning and Economic Development; Historic Preservation Committee; Industrial Park Operation and Development and Office of the Mayor.

The next budget session will be held on Monday, October 29, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Hendler, second by Siegler to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Motion carried

Lori A. Panzer
Deputy City Clerk